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Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

SEP 30 2008

FCC Mail Room

In the Matter of

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CC Docket No. 96-45

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Federal-State Joint Board on

)

Universal Service

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**RCC MINNESOTA, INC. AND RCC ATLANTIC, INC.
ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER
2008 ANNUAL REPORT AND CERTIFICATION
IN COMPLIANCE WITH 47 C.F.R. §54.209(b)
FOR THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

September 26, 2008

Mark R. Smith
Assistant Secretary
RCC Minnesota, Inc.
RCC Atlantic, Inc.
One Verizon Place
Alpharetta, GA 30004-8511
(678) 338-5121

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I. INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the standards and requirements established by the Federal Communications Commission (“Commission”), RCC Minnesota, Inc. and RCC Atlantic, Inc. (collectively, “RCC” or the “Company”) submit this 2008 Annual Report and Certification for the State of New Hampshire, and respectfully request the Commission to certify RCC’s eligibility to receive high-cost support from the federal universal service fund for calendar year 2009.

II. BACKGROUND

RCC has been designated as a competitive eligible telecommunications carrier (“ETC”) in certain areas of New Hampshire by Commission Order dated October 7, 2005.¹ RCC is designated as a competitive ETC in 112 wire centers of Verizon New England, Inc., ten (10) study areas served by Bretton Woods Tel. Co., Dixville Tel. Co., Dunbarton Tel. Co., Hollis Tel. Co., Inc., Merrimack County Tel. Co., Merrimack Co. Tel. Co. d/b/a Contoocook Valley, Northland Tel. of Maine, Inc., Union Tel. Co., Wilton Tel. Co., and Kearsarge Tel. Co.,² and certain specified wire centers of Granite State Tel., Inc.

III. RCC’S ANNUAL REPORTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 54.209(b)

Section 54.209(b) of the Commission’s Rules requires a common carrier previously designated by the Commission as an ETC to annually report certain additional information set

¹ *In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, RCC Minnesota, Inc. and RCC Atlantic, Inc. Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the State of New Hampshire*, CC Docket 96-45, Order, DA 05-2673 (rel. Oct. 7, 2005) (“*Designation Order*”).

² The scope of RCC’s New Hampshire designated area was subsequently clarified to reflect all wire centers within the Kearsarge Telephone Company study area, one wire center having been omitted from the *Designation Order*. *In the Matter of High-Cost Universal Service Support, Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Alltel Communications, Inc. et al. Petitions for Designation as Eligible Telecommunications Carriers, RCC Minnesota, Inc. and RCC Atlantic, Inc. New Hampshire ETC Designation Amendment*, WC Docket 05-337, CC Docket 96-45, Order, FCC 08-122 (rel. May 1, 2008).

forth in Section 54.209(a) no later than October 1 of each calendar year. RCC respectfully submits the following information for the period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 in satisfaction of the Commission's annual reporting requirement.

A. RCC's Progress Report on its Service Improvement Plan

Section 54.209(a)(1) of the Commission's Rules requires an ETC to provide a progress report on its previously filed service quality improvement plan. RCC first developed a five-year Service Improvement Plan, which was filed with the Commission in September 2006 as part of the Company's first annual report and certification. RCC filed an updated five-year Service Improvement Plan in September 2007, as part of its 2007 annual report. The Service Improvement Plan included all information required by Section 54.402(a)(1)(ii) of the Commission's Rules on a wire center-by-wire center basis.

RCC's 2008 Progress Report on its updated Service Improvement Plan is attached as **Confidential Exhibit A**. The Progress Report includes a map detailing the Company's progress toward meeting its plan targets, an explanation of how much universal service support was received and how it was used to improve signal quality, coverage or capacity, an explanation regarding any network improvement targets that have not been fulfilled, and an updated Service Improvement Plan. The Progress Report is submitted at the wire center level. RCC will continue to utilize federal high-cost universal service support for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended consistent with § 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the "Act") and § 54.7 of the Commission's Rules.

B. Network Outages In New Hampshire Designated Area

Section 54.209(a)(2) of the Commission's Rules requires an ETC to annually report certain network outages within its designated area. The Rule specifically requires:

[d]etailed information on any outage, as that term is defined in 47 C.F.R. 4.5, of at least 30 minutes in duration for each service area in which an eligible

telecommunications carrier is designated for any facilities it owns, operates, leases, or otherwise utilizes that potentially affect (i) [a]t least ten percent of the end users served in a designated service area; or (ii) [a] 911 special facility, as defined in 47 C.F.R. 4.5(e). Specifically, the eligible telecommunications carrier's annual report must include information detailing: (A) [t]he date and time of onset of the outage; (B) [a] brief description of the outage and its resolution; (C) [t]he particular services affected; (D) [t]he geographic areas affected by the outage; (E) [s]teps taken to prevent a similar situation in the future; and (F) [t]he number of customers affected.

The information required by Section 54.209(a)(2) concerning RCC's designated area is contained within **Confidential Exhibit B**. RCC has compiled and reported information for all outages of at least 30 minutes in duration occurring within its designated area that may potentially affect at least ten percent (10%) of its customers served in a service area. RCC cannot know for certain how many of its subscribers were affected or potentially affected by an outage, and so it has provided an estimate based on the number of its subscribers in the wire center where the facility affected by the outage is located.

C. Unfulfilled Requests For Service

Section 54.209(a)(3) of the Commission's Rules requires an ETC to annually report the number of requests for service from potential customers within the ETC's designated service areas that were unfulfilled during the past year. The filing must also detail how the ETC attempted to provide service to those potential customers as set forth in Section 54.202(a)(1)(i). The required information concerning RCC's unfulfilled requests for service within its designated area is contained in **Exhibit C**.

D. Complaints Per 1,000 Handsets Or Lines

Section 54.209(a)(4) of the Commission's Rules requires an ETC to annually report the number of complaints per 1,000 handsets or lines. The required information concerning the number of complaints per 1,000 handsets for RCC's designated area is contained in **Exhibit D**.

E. Certification Regarding Applicable Service Quality Standards And Consumer Protection Rules

Section 54.209(a)(5) of the Commission's Rules requires an ETC to certify that it is complying with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules. RCC's compliance with the terms and conditions of the CTIA Consumer Code meets this requirement. RCC certifies it has complied and will continue to comply with the principles set forth therein.

F. Certification Regarding An Ability to Function In Emergency Situations

Section 54.209(a)(6) of the Commission's Rules requires an ETC to certify that it is able to function in emergency situations as set forth in Section 54.202(a)(2). The standards set forth in Section 54.202(a)(2) include a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, an ability to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and a capability to manage traffic spikes arising from emergency situations. RCC certifies it is able to function in emergency situations as set forth in Section 54.202(a)(2).

G. Certification Regarding Its Provision Of A Comparable Local Usage Plan

Section 54.209(a)(7) of the Commission's Rules requires an ETC to certify it is offering a local usage plan comparable to the incumbent LEC in the relevant service areas. RCC has available many service offerings with varying amounts of local usage in its designated area, including a plan with unlimited local usage. RCC certifies it offers and will continue to offer at least one comparable local usage plan as required by Section 54.209(a)(7).

H. Certification Regarding The Commission's Ability To Provide Equal Access

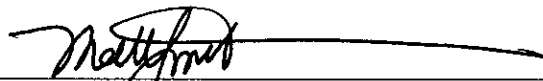
RCC hereby certifies that the Commission, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 332(c)(8), may require it to provide equal access to long distance carriers in the event that no other ETC is providing equal access within its designated area.

IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing information, RCC respectfully requests the Commission to certify its eligibility to receive federal universal service support for calendar year 2009 in accordance with 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313 and 54.314.

Dated: September ~~26~~, 2008

RCC MINNESOTA, INC.
RCC ATLANTIC, INC.

By 

Mark R. Smith
Assistant Secretary
RCC Minnesota, Inc.
RCC Atlantic, Inc.
One Verizon Place
Alpharetta, GA 30004-8511
(678) 338-5121

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
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In the Matter of

Federal-State Joint Board on
Universal Service


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CC Docket No. 96-45

CERTIFICATION

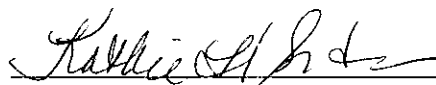
The undersigned, Mark R. Smith, does hereby certify as follows:

1. I serve as Assistant Secretary of RCC Minnesota Inc. and RCC Atlantic, Inc.
2. This certification is submitted in support of the Company's 2008 ETC Annual Report and Certification in compliance with 47 C.F.R. § 54.209(b).
3. I have reviewed the 2008 ETC Certification and Annual Report and the facts stated therein, of which I have personal knowledge, are true and correct to the best of my present knowledge, information and belief.



Mark R. Smith
Assistant Secretary
RCC Minnesota, Inc.
RCC Atlantic, Inc.
(NOTARY SEAL)

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 26 day of September, 2008.



Notary Public

KATHIE H. SMITH
Notary Public, Cobb County, Georgia
My Commission Expires February 6, 2011

SUMMARY OF EXHIBITS

Confidential Exhibit A – 2008 Progress Report on Service Improvement Plan for the State of New Hampshire

Confidential Exhibit B – Outage Report for July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

Exhibit C – Unfulfilled Requests for Service for July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

Exhibit D – Complaints Per 1,000 Handsets or Lines for July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

PUBLIC VERSION – CONFIDENTIAL VERSION FILED UNDER SEPARATE COVER

CONFIDENTIAL EXHIBIT A

**RCC 2008 PROGRESS REPORT ON SERVICE IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FOR THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**THIS EXHIBIT IS WITHHELD FROM THE PUBLIC COPY AS THE FILER HAS
REQUESTED CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT**

PUBLIC VERSION – CONFIDENTIAL VERSION FILED UNDER SEPARATE COVER

CONFIDENTIAL EXHIBIT B

OUTAGE REPORT FOR THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

NEW HAMPSHIRE DESIGNATED AREA

July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008

THIS EXHIBIT IS WITHHELD FROM THE PUBLIC COPY AS THE FILER HAS REQUESTED CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT

EXHIBIT C

UNFULFILLED REQUESTS FOR SERVICE
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

NEW HAMPSHIRE DESIGNATED AREA

July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008

Number of Unfulfilled Requests
for Service Within Designated AreaDescription of How Service
Was Attempted

| | | | |
|----|-------------------|----------------------|--|
| 1. | 321 Meadows Road | Jefferson, NH | Field technician visited location. This is an area with poor to no service. A new site would need to be constructed at an estimated cost of \$400,000 and cover approximately 1,070 POPs. No available USF support. RCC currently has a 2010 site planned to fulfill this request. |
| 2. | 17 Porter Road | Milton, NH | Field technician visited location. This is an area with poor to no service. A new site would need to be constructed at an estimated cost of \$400,000 and cover approximately 4,372 POPs. No available USF support. RCC currently has a 2011 site planned to fulfill this request. |
| 3. | 255 Pickerel Pond | Laconia, NH | Field technician visited location. This is an area with poor to no service. A new site would need to be constructed at an estimated cost of \$400,000 and cover approximately 17,102 POPs. No available USF support. |
| 4. | 4063 Rumney Rt 25 | Rumney, NH | Field technician visited location. This is an area with poor to no service. A new site would need to be constructed at an estimated cost of \$400,000 and cover approximately 1,570 POPs. No available USF support. |
| 5. | 97 Wes Locke Road | Center Barnstead, NH | Field technician visited location. This is an area with poor to no service. A new site would need to be constructed at an estimated cost of \$400,000 and cover approximately 4,507 POPs. No available USF support. |
| 6. | 243 Route 103 | Sunapee, NH | Field technician visited location. This is an area with poor to no service. A new site would need to be constructed at an estimated cost of \$400,000 and cover approximately 3,229 POPs. No available USF support. |
| 7. | 14 Bailey Road | Franklin, NH | Field technician visited location. This is an area with poor to no service. A new site would need to be constructed at an estimated cost of \$400,000 and cover approximately 8,686 POPs. No available USF support. |

EXHIBIT D

**COMPLAINTS PER 1,000 HANDSETS
WITHIN DESIGNATED AREA IN NEW HAMPSHIRE**

NEW HAMPSHIRE DESIGNATED AREA

Reporting Period: July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

Complaints per 1,000 lines: 0.077

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